GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3278
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003
REVAMPING OF PRODUCTION UNITS
JAYASHREE BANERJEE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Defence Production Units of Jabalpur are proposed to be revamped;

(b) if so, whether any work order is being planned to be given to the said units;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts made to make these units competitive with the private units?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir. As a part of the modernisation programme, the ordnance factories located at Jabalpur, are being modernised.

(b) There are four ordnance factories at Jabalpur, out of which the Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur, Gun Carriage Factory, Jabalpur and Ordnance Factory, Khamaria have adequate workload to fully utilize their installed capacities. The Grey Iron Foundry, Jabalpur (GIF), however, does not have adequate workload to fully utilize the installed capacity, since, production of castings for various components of the engine for `B` vehicle has been discontinued. Steps have been taken to improve the work order position of GIF.

(c) In accordance with the recommendations of the committee constituted to suggest an appropriate product-mix for GIF to increase the workload, GIF management has decided to diversify its product range to ammunition packages, bomb body castings, hand grenade castings and other castings required for ammunition items.

(d) Apart from modernisation of the manufacturing facilities, efforts have been made to diversify the product range, develop new products and broaden the customer base with a view to fully utilise the installed capacity and bring down the cost of production.